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# Macalester Today May 1991

Macalester College

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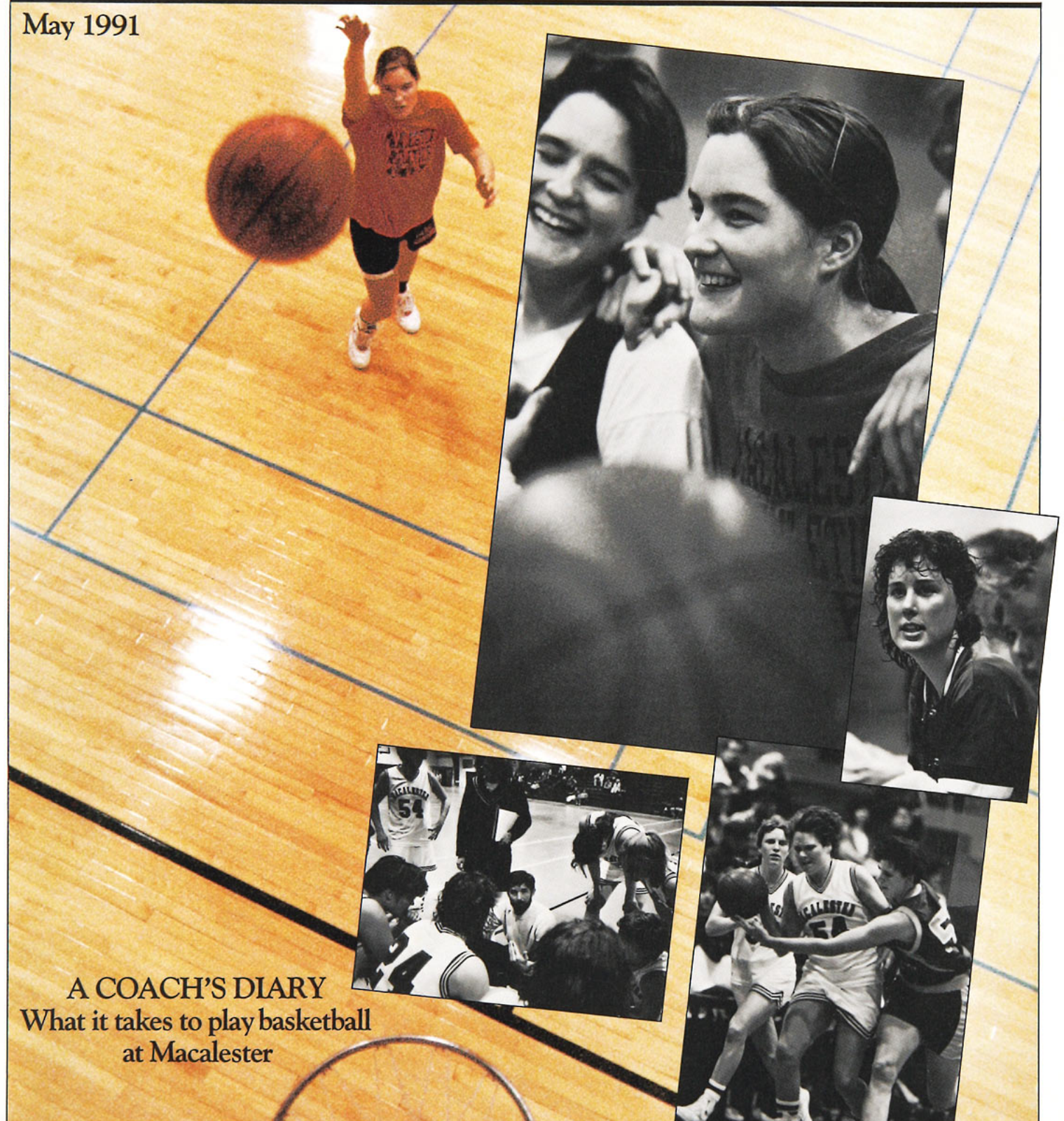
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# MACALESTER TODAY

May 1991



A COACH'S DIARY  
What it takes to play basketball  
at Macalester



# LETTERS

*The policy of Macalester Today is to publish all letters from alumni, the primary audience of this magazine, as well as other members of the Macalester community. Exceptions are letters that personally malign an individual or are not related to issues at Macalester or contents of the magazine. Please send letters intended for publication to Letters to the Editor, Macalester Today, Public Relations and Publications Department, Macalester College, 1600 Grand Ave., St. Paul, MN 55105-1899. We reserve the right to edit letters for conciseness and clarity.*

## Sexual orientation

The letter from C. Wesley Andersen '30 [in the February issue of *Macalester Today*] regarding his attitudes toward lesbians and gays displays such a profound ignorance that it would be laughable were it not for its frightening fascist underpinnings.

It confounds me that you would print such a letter without some sort of editorial comment since it flies in the face of even the most basic principles of equality and tolerance that I thought were cornerstones of the educational philosophy at Macalester. Am I mistaken? I can't imagine you printing a letter that espoused screening students applying for admission

on the basis of race, creed, national origin or gender, so how can you be so cavalier about printing a letter that suggests that "all church-related colleges should administer personality inventories to students applying for admission," clearly implying that they should be used to screen out lesbians and gays.

The statement that "I am certain that there were no homosexuals at Mac in those days" displays an astounding ignorance of the facts. I'm sure that those persons who were gay at Macalester at that time were closeted and frightened due to attitudes such as the ones Mr. Andersen expresses in his letter. Clearly, the laws protecting gays and lesbians against discrimination are needed given the prejudice that Mr. Andersen displays.

More importantly, the Macalester community needs to make it clear that it welcomes people of all sexual persuasions by adopting an official policy of non-discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation.

David W. Perkins '76  
New York

*Editor's note: The prospectus that is sent to all prospective students contains the following statement: "Macalester College does not discriminate on the basis of age, race, color, national ethnic origin, religious preference, gender, sexual orientation, or handicap. Inquiries about the College's nondiscriminatory policy may be directed to the Office of the President." A similar statement is contained in the college catalog, application for admission and other college publications.*

## Uses of the MMPI

It is very unfortunate that C. Wesley Andersen is "revolted" by a "Message to gay alumni." The gay community is at great risk and needs our concern and support. *Macalester Today* is to be encouraged to publish material to clarify and edify our understanding and appreciation of the gays and lesbians who are certainly in our midst.

Mr. Andersen was certainly one of the most innovative and successful supervisors of music education in the Minneapolis public schools. However, he made some errors in his letter.

He claimed to have administered and interpreted the Minnesota Multiphasic

Personality Inventory, a personality test, to every candidate for music education for teaching in the Minneapolis public schools and thus had eliminated any homosexual. Usually the personnel department clerk gave the test and it was used only if the teacher ran into difficulty. The test results were not used for teacher position selection as Mr. Andersen claimed. Usually Virginia Hathaway, a Minneapolis school psychologist who is the wife of one of the developers of the MMPI, interpreted the test results, and not Mr. Andersen, who was not licensed as a psychologist.

A third error in his letter is that the MMPI is not effective in identifying homosexuals. There is a homosexual scale in the old MMPI but it turned out to be more effective in identifying broad interests or non-gender stereotyped interests (i.e., men could be interested in music and child care in addition to hunting and fishing). In fact, some graduate schools which have administered the MMPI use the homosexual scale as a favorable predictor of success in graduate school because it is an asset to have broad interests as an educated person.

To go beyond this, it is a fact that homosexuals have enriched our lives as great composers, musicians and entertainers. Take note of all the entertainers who have died of AIDS. Look out, Mr. Andersen! The next concert you attend may have a gay or lesbian among those who are directing or playing the music or who may have even composed the great symphony! Maybe some of the "straight" or homosexual performers had learned to play, sing, dance or appreciate music from a gay or lesbian teacher in one of your wonderful Minneapolis public school music classes!

Dr. Ken Barklind '55  
Edina, Minn.  
licensed consulting psychologist  
and school psychologist

## GLBU member responds

As one of the co-facilitators of Gays, Lesbians and Bisexuals United [a Macalester student organization], I am revolted by the ignorance and lack of justice in the letter from C. Wesley Andersen. Mr.

LETTERS continued on page 31

## February's photo

The unusual "Macalester Yesterday" photo that appeared on this page in February's issue has been identified by the alumnus who took it. Donald A. Schuldt '37 of Oakdale, Minn., said the photo shows an M Club initiation at Shaw Field in the spring of 1934.

The photo, stored in the Macalester archives, was never published until it appeared in February's *Macalester Today*. "It was just for my scrapbook," Schuldt said. "I gave a copy to Coach [D.C.] Primrose," who was also the athletic director. J. Wellman Milsten '37 of El Cajon, Calif., also wrote us to explain the photo.

—the Editors



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Photos by Greg Helgeson and Ethan Hyman '93 capture moments of the Macalester women's basketball season. Turn to page 5.

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## Vandals sentenced

Three St. Paul men who vandalized the kosher kitchen in Macalester's Hebrew House were sentenced in February to 60 days each in the Ramsey County Workhouse and placed on probation for three years.

The three—Scott H. Hoyt, 22, Michael E. Terry, 21, and Darryl J. Somora, 21—all pleaded guilty to a felony, criminal damage to property motivated by the religious beliefs of the victim or victims. The three—none of them Macalester students—admitted entering the Hebrew House section of Kirk Hall last Nov. 23, defiling a kosher kitchen used by Jewish students and leaving a profane anti-Semitic note.

As conditions of probation, each was also ordered to perform 200 hours of community service work and write a letter of apology to the college and the Jewish community. In addition, they must pay a total of \$1,239 in restitution for cigarette burns in carpeting and the cost of making the kitchen kosher again.

The vandalism was reported in newspapers throughout the country. After the incident was discovered, Macalester President Robert M. Gavin Jr. called a special convocation, attended by an overflow crowd of faculty, students and staff, to express support for Macalester's Jewish community.

## President reaffirms policy on sexual assault

The issue of sexual assault on college campuses—especially so-called "date rape" or "acquaintance rape"—has become even more prominent because of several widely publicized cases across the country. President Gavin recently reaffirmed Macalester's policy:

When the college is made aware of a sexual assault, our first response is to offer all possible support to the victim. We use both on-campus and off-campus services to this end. Students are always advised to report an assault to the St. Paul police, even if they have decided not



## 'The Peace Pipe'

A scene from "The Peace Pipe," a play by English faculty member Diane Glancy. The drama is based on the 1805-06 search of Lt. Zebulon Pike and his French-Indian guide for the source of the Mississippi. The play tells the story from three perspectives: Pike's, the guide's and that of Pike's wife, Clarissa. Glancy, researcher Kristi Wheeler '69, director Rachel Katz '89 and their student cast took the play on the road to Minnesota high schools and the University of Minnesota last fall. The play is also being presented May 24, the evening before Commencement, in Weyerhaeuser Chapel. Pictured: Christy Walker '91, left, of Ann Arbor, Mich., as Clarissa Pike; Chris Hanchette '91 of Annapolis, Md., as Zebulon Pike, and Brian Bull '91 of Lewiston, Idaho, as the guide.

GREG HELGESON

to pursue the case in the court system. The student handbook outlines the steps involved in making a police report and recommends consultation with an attorney if a civil suit is contemplated. Choosing to go through the campus judicial system does not preclude pursuing off-campus legal options.

Students have two options available on campus should they decide to pursue the issue through a judicial process: an administrative hearing or taking the case through the Judicial Council. Macalester cannot, of course, adjudicate a felony as such. However, the college can adjudi-

cate inappropriate behavior between and among students.

Beyond that, Macalester has taken a variety of steps to educate students about the national problem commonly known as "date rape" or "acquaintance rape." Through public forums, orientation of new students, the activities of the Sexual Assault Work Group, which is made up of both staff and students, as well as other means, Macalester seeks to create an environment in which such conduct is unacceptable.



## *Hungry Mind Review* whets literary appetites across U.S. and Canada

They thumb through it at Old Harbor Books in Sitka, Alaska, just as they do at Shakespeare & Co. in New York City. You can find a copy of it at Mary Scorer Books in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, and at the Double Hook in Montreal. From Rubyfruit Books in Tallahassee, Fla., to the Green Apple in San Francisco, the *Hungry Mind Review* is known to book lovers across North America.

Billed as "a Midwestern Book Review" and distributed free of charge at 350 independent bookstores, the quarterly has become an important journal of literary criticism. It has gathered praise from *USA Today*, the *Chicago Tribune*, *Publisher's Weekly*, *Utne Reader* and the *Washington Post*, among others. Even posh *Vanity Fair* has taken notice of the distinct little publication.

Editor Bart Schneider, a 38-year-old playwright and teacher who moved from San Francisco to Minnesota in 1983, started the *HMR* in 1986 with David Unowsky, owner of the Hungry Mind Bookstore and publisher of the review. It was originally published three times a year but became a quarterly in 1990.

"We just cooked up this idea that here in Minnesota where there's this terrific funding for the arts and a good writing community—not only in Minnesota but throughout the Midwest—there seemed to be a real dearth of any kind of critical vehicle," Schneider said. "... It seemed really important to get something going that would enlist a lot of the best writers in the community to write criticism, not necessarily of books from the Midwest, but books from other parts of the country."

The first issue was launched from the cluttered loft above the main floor of Unowsky's bookstore. Since then, a healthy dose of idealism and determination has guided their efforts. In-depth reviews of books often ignored by larger publications such as the *New York Review of Books* and the *New York Times Book Review* have been the *HMR*'s bread and butter. A focus section gives each issue a distinctive look and feel with topics such as life in the city, education, travel and landscape, poetry and audience.

The review is now housed in a modest two-story dwelling on Lincoln Street, just

behind the bookstore and across the street from the Macalester Plymouth Church.

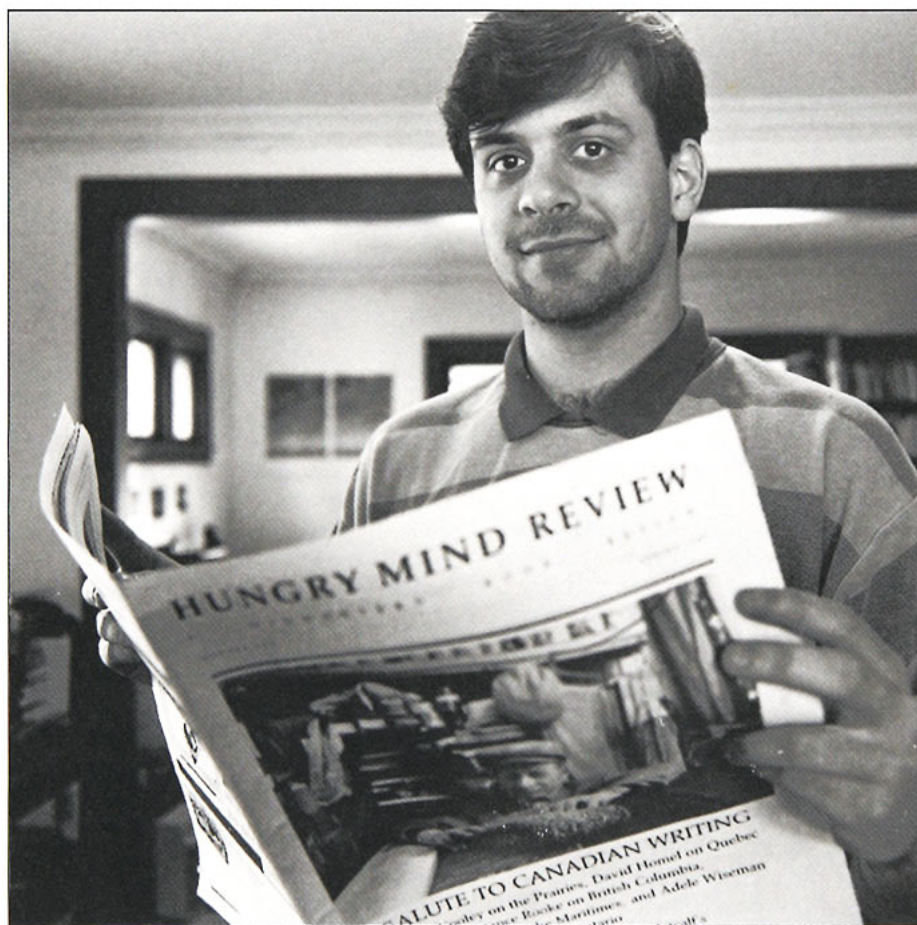
"It's really been invaluable to have interns from Macalester," says Schneider. "We've basically been a staff of two people with an influx of interns from time to time. That's a pretty shaky way of putting out something while you're doing a print run of 30,000, sending it to 350 bookstores across the U.S. and Canada, and the size of the issue is averaging probably 52 pages."

Of course, the interns gain valuable experience as well. Philip Patrick '91, one-time intern and now editorial assistant to Schneider, enjoys the relative chaos. "We have a joke in the office," he says. "Every time we sit down to do something it's like re-inventing the wheel. It can be frustrating sometimes

but we do it and we've learned a lot because of that."

The *HMR*'s envious profile (a firm regional base and a strong national reputation) was achieved by embracing the literature and sensibilities of the Midwest while simultaneously reaching across the northern border to Canada in search of distinctive writers and reviewers on a regular basis—a deceptively simple technique unique among major U.S. book reviews.

Mary Ann Grossmann '60, books editor for the *St. Paul Pioneer Press*, is an enthusiastic supporter. She says the review's importance lies in its distinct Midwestern viewpoint. For example, she points to the different approach the local literary community took in reviewing Garrison Keillor's *Lake Wobegon Days*: "When it came out, the East Coast talked



Philip Patrick '91, former intern and now editorial assistant at the *Hungry Mind Review of Books*. "It's really been invaluable to have interns from Macalester," says Editor Bart Schneider.

GREG HELGESON



about the early chapters, comparing it to Mark Twain. But local reviewers thought it was dark and confining."

The *HMR* is also known for its artwork which creates a subtle, yet distinct graphic design. Turn each page and a pastiche of evocative woodcut images highlight the articles. Photographs—sometimes brooding, sometimes joyous—set each issue's tone and usually center around the focus section. The winter 1990-91 issue, for example, features seven half-page photographs of city life by Chicago photographer Tom Arndt.

With Macalester less than a block away, it is no surprise that the review makes frequent use of faculty reviewers. Charles Norman, Jack Weatherford, Susan Allen Toth and Norm Rosenberg have all written for the review. Jonathan Sisson, a lecturer in the English department, recently came on board as the managing editor. Grossmann, however, is quick to point out that the reviews and essays are "accessible writing—not overly academic."

One of Schneider's regular reviewers is Robert Warde, associate professor of English at Macalester. He has reviewed two books on baseball (a passion he shares with Schneider and Unowsky), a collection of essays on movies, a study of 20th century French art and four children's books that deal with war.

"The nice thing about reviewing for the *Hungry Mind*, and the reason I continue to do it—apart from a good relationship with Bart—is that the *Hungry Mind Review* is willing to give you, within reason, the space you need to really do what you feel you need to do with the book," Warde says.

Fundamentally, a book review exists to help readers decide what they would like to read—and buy. Because of this, the *HMR* also plays an important part in the business of bookselling. Its self-appointed role as champion of independent bookstores sounds the equivalent of literary populism. The inside back cover of each issue—which is valuable advertising space—lists the independent bookstores where the *HMR* is distributed free of charge.

"Part of the independent bookstore mystique is that people kind of come to hang around, not necessarily to buy books. And there's a sense of community," says Schneider.

In light of a slumping publishing industry, the review is bucking trends: paid subscriptions are increasing and advertising revenue continues to climb. The press run has jumped more than 25 percent in the last year and there are plans for a massive subscription campaign.

But reviewers like Warde think there are better ways to measure success: "I think [the *HMR*] is beginning to do quite well the job I see it setting out to do, which is to inform serious readers of a range of serious books that they might otherwise not come in contact with."

Schneider attributes the review's good fortune to hard work. He also recognizes the value of playing the underdog. "Part of [the review's success] is a strange sense of 'How does anything with any sophistication come out of the Midwest?' They [people on the coasts] expect so little from us."

Food for thought—and that makes Schneider happy.

Subscriptions are \$10 a year (\$13 in Canada). Write to the *Hungry Mind Review*, 1648 Grand Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55105. —Kevin Brooks '89

## Women's team shines on basketball court

Winners of a school-record 17 games, the women's basketball team highlighted the 1990-91 winter sports season at Macalester.

The Scots lost four of their first five games in Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference play. But they turned their season around with a 66-65 upset over then-undefeated St. Benedict on the home floor Jan. 9. From that point on, the Scots went 10-5 in MIAC games to finish 17-9 overall. The biggest win was a 66-61 shocker at home Jan. 23 over St. Thomas. It was the only MIAC setback for the Tommies, who went on to win the Division III national championship.

The Scots went on to finish fifth in the league under MIAC Coach of the Year John Hershey. The four teams ahead of them all made it to the 32-team NCAA Division III playoffs and all were nationally ranked at one point during the season.

Junior all-conference guard Jane Ruliffson (Fargo, N.D.) enjoyed another

outstanding season, scoring 17.4 points a game to become the school's second all-time leading scorer (1,264 points). Ruliffson was second in the nation in three-point shooting percentage (50.9 percent) and 21st in free throw percentage (80.6 percent).

Seniors Sue Mahoney (Stillwater, Minn.), Jen Downham (Minneapolis) and Michelle Peterson (Maple Grove, Minn.) combined for 27 points and 16 rebounds per game and provided the Scots with outstanding defense. (For more about the women's season, see the article that begins on page 5.)

For the men's basketball team, the '90-91 season was a much different story. The loss of three starters from the year before to graduation made the Scots one of the most inexperienced teams in the MIAC and the result was a last-place 1-19 conference slate and 4-21 overall record. Senior Rob Laumeyer (Boulder, Mont.) led the team in scoring with a 15.0 mark, while senior Marko Morris (Gary, Ind.) and sophomore Derrick Malcolm (Social Circle, Ga.) were among the league's top five rebounders.

It was a successful winter individually for Macalester's swimmers and divers, but both the men's and women's teams lacked the depth needed to escape last place at the MIAC Championships.

The most accomplished performer on the men's team was senior diver Leo Pearce (Oak Park, Ill.), who qualified for the NCAA Division III Championships for the second year in a row and placed fourth in the conference on both the one-meter and three-meter boards.

Junior Paula Oeler (Allentown, Pa.) was the top performer on the women's swimming team and accounted for Mac's best finish at the conference championships—eighth place in the 1,650-yard freestyle.

The women's winter track season concluded with an eighth-place finish at the MIAC Indoor Championships in March. Sophomore Jen Tonkin (Bellevue, Wash.), an all-conference cross-country runner, placed third in both the 3,000-meter and 5,000-meter runs.

First-year long jumper Nelson Jumbe (Harare, Zimbabwe) enjoyed an outstanding winter season for the men's track squad, taking third place at the league indoor meet and 10th at the NCAA Division III Championships. —Andy Johnson



# HOOPS

*A coach's diary  
of a memorable season  
for Macalester's  
women's basketball team.*



**by John Hershey**

**L**ooking out my office window to the Macalester field house floor last September, I was shocked to see a five-on-five basketball scrimmage. This game was notable because all the participants were female and all planned to play intercollegiate basketball. In the previous five years, we had never had enough interest or numbers to generate an all-female full-court game.

After the scrimmage, Jane Ruliffson (Fargo, N.D.), a junior tri-captain on the Mac women's team, came into my office, face flushed, eyes bright. She remembered last year's seven-player rotation when injury reduced our numbers. She remembered how two junior men and our assistant coach practiced with us to make ends meet. Jane is one of our intrepid few who had prepared for last year's season by entering the men's scrimmages. "Did you see us?" she said. "I'm really psyched to start this season."

When I arrived at Macalester in 1986 to coach women's basketball, the team's 11-year won-lost

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*John Hershey is coach of the women's basketball team and assistant athletic director at Macalester. He was named basketball Coach of the Year in the Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference at the end of the 1990-91 season.*





# HOOPS

**When I arrived at Macalester in 1986 to coach women's basketball, the team's 11-year won-lost record was 56-135. Three players showed up for the first practice.**

GREG HELGESON



Patty Carver, left, and Susie Plettner join in a team ritual: At the conclusion of every practice, players held hands to send "positive energy" with their right hands and receive it with their left.

record was 56-135. Three players showed up for the first practice. That fall, I began working toward the time when Mac could field a healthy and competitive women's basketball team. This diary chronicles the 1990-91 season, the fifth year of that effort.

**OCT. 15:** Fourteen players appear for the first day of practice. We're able to play full court without adding a coach to the scrimmage. And for the first time in my tenure, the team is not dependent on the participation of fall athletes from soccer, volleyball and cross-country to complement our squad.

I'm glad I won't have to teach new concepts two or even three times, which was a real frustration. But I wonder if even small-college athletics now steers athletes toward one-sport careers.

Volleyball players Sandy Cole (South St. Paul, Minn.) and Cassi Mickelson (Ada, Minn.) both played regularly last year. Will we need them as much this year, especially since they'll be three weeks behind the others? Cassi, clad in volleyball shoes, watches the end of practice. Though pleased by the size of the squad, she hints anxiously about the possible loss of playing time. "There are some good players out there," she says.

**NOV. 1:** The presence of so many talented players challenges my no-cut philosophy. In preceding years, two or three players who possessed limited skills at best had to participate in our scrimmages. Pam Eaton, our assistant coach, and I have noticed that when we substitute with lesser skilled players this season, the quality of the scrimmage drops off dramatically. I still believe Mac should offer any student the chance to play intercollegiate basketball. But I also believe I owe the skilled players the opportunity to be the best they can be, particularly in the highly competitive Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference, which regularly boasts three or four nationally ranked teams.

At the close of practice, Pam and I let the team know that scrimmages need to be as competitive as possible if we're going to maximize our ability. Thus, playing time will not be equally divided—and some might not play at all.

**NOV. 9:** First-year players Leslie and Susie Plettner (twins from Des Moines, Iowa) and Sue Thompson (Minot, N.D.) act puzzled and a little nervous when I invite them into my office after practice. They're relieved when I present each with a Nike women's basketball action poster. I tell them how well they're doing and that, in fact, they represent the starting front line for next year—and for two years after that. "Cool," says Sue Thompson.

**NOV. 17:** We open the season with an eight-point win over Lawrence University. Like us, Lawrence returned all of last year's starters; unlike us, Lawrence ended its season with a 12-game winning streak, capturing its conference title. Mac finished in the lower half of the MIAC, winning only 11 games.

The win accentuates the strength of our conference. Though we have the strongest collection of women's basketball players we've ever had, the MIAC is so competitive that "you might be lucky to win 10 games," says Ken Andrews, Mac's athletic director. Reluctantly, I have to agree.

One sad note: Leslie Plettner, starting in her first varsity game, went down in a heap in the first





ETHAN HYMAN '93

Timeout against the Tommies: Hershey instructs the team during the Jan. 23 game against St. Thomas, a traditional MIAC rival. Although St. Thomas went on to win the NCAA Division III national championship, the Scots pulled off a stunning 66-61 upset in this game.

seven minutes of action with an ankle injury. She will not play again until late January. She was in so much pain that it was one of the few times I ever tended to an injured player, a job I usually leave to those in the know—the training staff. At home that evening, I notice bruises on the back side of my upper arm—fingerprints where Leslie squeezed in an effort to blot out the pain.

**DEC. 7:** Today is the first time I play in scrimmage time. Illness, injury and the approach of final exams have taken a toll on our practice numbers. That night my knees ache and Advil helps me go to sleep.

**DEC. 10:** The Carleton loss two days ago was a benchmark. After losses to Gustavus and St. Thomas, two of the MIAC's top three, the Carleton game was one we should have won. Our experienced players committed six straight turnovers in the final five minutes. I left the gym feeling that I was letting the team down. I should know how to help them play well. After some weekend soul searching, I vowed to re-intensify my coaching effort at today's practice.

I figured to start by emphasizing the basics and planned for assistant Pam Eaton to act as the "hatchet woman"—the one to assign push-ups to those who fail to execute fundamentals properly. Educational reinforcement of that kind is something I'd never done before, but I wanted to get our players to pay attention to detail.

Pam, however, called in sick. So, after assuming the blame for the Carleton loss in a pre-practice

meeting, I become the "hatchet man." Everyone accepts their "treats" without whimper. In fact, as the year continues, players simply fall to the floor, unbidden by either coach, and even invent their own categories of punishment. I think they appreciated being pushed to play better.

**DEC. 15:** We finish our first "mini-season," on the brink of final exam week, with our second non-conference win in a row at Concordia-St. Paul. We meet in the locker room after the game and emphasize the importance of staying in playing shape, especially because we'll gather again just after Christmas for the team trip to California. This is our first venture to an "exotic" locale, one which our five seniors—Jen Downham (Minneapolis), Sue Mahoney (Stillwater, Minn.), Sandy Cole, Patty Carver (Ithaca, N.Y.), and Michelle Peterson (Maple Grove, Minn.)—have been anticipating for four years. Indeed, they've helped raise the bulk of the \$5,000 to finance the trip.

We've never practiced formally during final exam week. However, tri-captain Jen Downham coordinates times to meet for scrimmages. I know then the team is serious about playing good basketball.

**DEC. 28:** Sue Thompson's mother, a nurse, leaves for Saudi Arabia and hospital duty.

**DEC. 29:** After two days of practice and fun in Los Angeles, we play Occidental, one of the best teams in the Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference. With two seconds left in the game, Occidental has the ball out of bounds at half



# HOOOPS

**I pause outside  
the locker room  
door to give the kids time to celebrate.  
Lockers bang, feet stamp, voices are raised.  
Their excitement, at least for now, makes  
all the hard work we've done seem  
worthwhile. They have discovered that  
Mac women can achieve in athletics.**

GREG HELGESON



Jane Ruliffson, left, and Sandy Cole collaborate in the library as well as on the court. Four of the five starters on the women's basketball team served as tutors for other students at the library's Learning Center.

court. Jen Downham tips the inbound pass, picks it up, dribbles once and launches a prayer well behind the half-court line. The shot arcs beautifully, hits the backboard squarely and goes through, giving us a 77-74 win. Our team mobs Jen while the opposing coach chases the game official from the floor, no doubt protesting that the shot did not beat the buzzer.

**JAN. 1, 1991:** After five days, two games and two victories, and a lot of Los Angeles sightseeing, we've returned to St. Paul. We meet to prepare for tomorrow's game with Bethel. Practice is subdued as the kids' minds are still in California. Jen looks particularly despondent during foul-shot practice. "I'm bummin', man. Here I am, 23 years old, still in college, and still playing this silly game."

The January blues.

**JAN. 9:** St. Benedict is a top-ranked MIAC team our five seniors have never defeated. Tonight we pull off a 66-65 upset, our first win ever over a nationally ranked team. Walking to our post-game meeting, I remember Sue Mahoney last year, sitting abjectly in front of her locker after losing to St. Ben's. "Just once," she said. "Just once I want to beat a really good team."

So I pause outside the locker room door to give the kids time to celebrate. Lockers bang, feet stamp, voices are raised. Their excitement, at least for now, makes all the hard work we've done seem worthwhile. They have discovered that Mac women can achieve in athletics.

Yet the moment is tempered by an injury to Sandy Cole, whose knee has given out in the final 15 seconds of the game. I fear she is lost for the season.

**JAN. 11:** We finally play a good game against Concordia, the No. 1-ranked team in the nation. I've never visited Moorhead without calling two timeouts in the first five minutes just to stem the tide of Concordia baskets. Though we lose by 30 points, we rebound them and force them into 18 turnovers. It's a reminder that we're a good team, but still a long way from playing with the champs.

Sue Thompson injures her ankle in the second half and our bench, already shortened by Sandy's absence, grows thinner. Sue will miss five games.

**JAN. 13:** The tape of the Occidental game arrives by mail and Jen asks to see "the shot." I watch her eyes widen as she plays and re-plays her shot. Later, I overhear her confide to a teammate, "Yeah, we kept watching the replay and Hersh kept saying, 'Shoot that shot again, Jen. It goes in every time.'" Jen will finish the year with the best three-point shooting percentage on the team: she was one-for-one.

**JAN. 14:** Injuries require Susie Plettner and Cassi Mickelson to play vital supporting roles against Augsburg. Late in the first half, Susie plays for Jen and promptly picks up two ill-advised fouls. I remove her from the game and speak harshly to her, uncharacteristic for me—I think. I challenge Susie to pick up the slack and play ball.

The next day, I apologize for my tirade, telling her I criticize her more than others because I see a bright future for her in Mac basketball. "That's OK, John," she says. "Don't worry. I need to be motivated."

**JAN. 16:** Kiki Weingarten (Washington, D.C.) is a marginally skilled player who loves basketball and being on the team. She has played sporadically over the past year and a half. That has not dimmed her faithfulness to the team. Indeed, she has learned one of the most difficult lessons for any athlete:



Sometimes you can help your team most by sitting on the bench. When Kiki plays in the final four minutes of the St. Mary's game, one we've handily put away, every player on the bench erupts as she sinks her first and only shot of the year.

This is the earliest a Mac team has ever won 10 games. But there are serious post-game looks on the faces of Sue Thompson and Patty Carver. An ROTC student, Patty knows that the U.S.-led coalition has attacked Iraq; Sue's mom, a nurse, is stationed in the Gulf.

After the game, the St. Mary's coach asks why we didn't play the national anthem. Was Mac being typically anti-war or what? No, I reply, we just don't have a good tape of the anthem and our sound system does not do it justice.

**JAN. 18:** Sandy Cole's collegiate career is over. A four-year player who earned a starting job this season, she was beginning to come into her own

and playing with real confidence. She completely tore a ligament in the Jan. 9 game against St. Benedict while making a superlative effort to save an errant pass. Our team physician has recommended surgery so she can pursue an active life after college. The team will miss her major contribution, but I'm more saddened by the untimely end of her college career.

The MIAC basketball schedule makes for one tough grind on a student's life. We've played 10 games in 23 days. In that time, Sandy Cole's season has ended, Sue Thompson has sat out 10 days with an injured ankle, Kim Lyrek (Maple Plain, Minn.) has been forced to leave a game with blurred vision and a black eye, and Michelle Peterson has had to be carried from the court with a bruised kidney. This is not a gentle game; it's one that athletes play.

**JAN. 20:** Kim Lyrek was voted the 1990 Wright County Athlete of the Year and requested that I speak in her behalf at the award banquet in Montrose, Minn. While I'm not wild about public speaking, I would do anything for Kim, a two-sport athlete who competes with the heart of a lion.

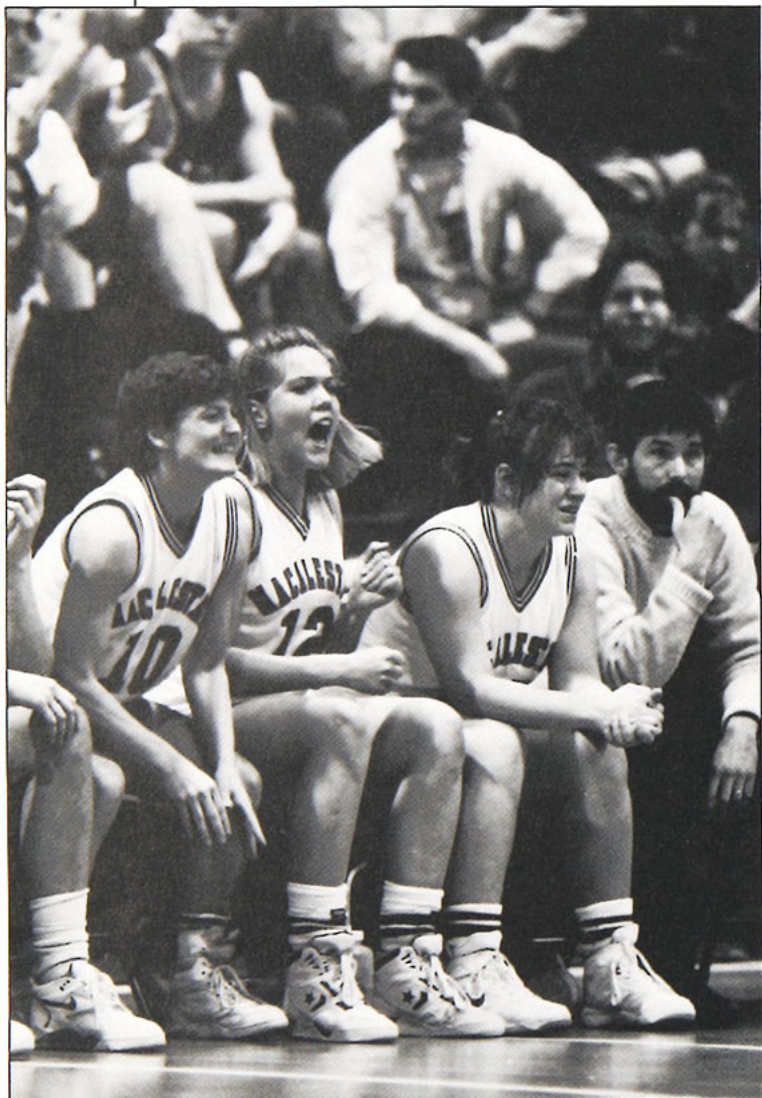
Kim greets me when I arrive at the dinner. She looks beautiful. I work so much with the team that, aside from the very obvious, gender has become almost a non-issue to me. I see my players daily in shorts and sweat-darkened T-shirts, with damp hair plastered to their foreheads. Occasionally, I'm surprised when I see my kids in dress clothes. It's then that their femininity is striking and catches me off-guard.

**JAN. 23:** We host St. Thomas, a traditional rival that the seniors have never defeated. Currently riding a 16-game winning streak, the Tommies have taken the top national ranking away from Concordia.

Five years ago, we led St. Thomas with three minutes to play and lost in overtime. I remember a timeout late in that game because I noted quizzical looks on the faces of our players: They were surprised to be ahead. A glance at the St. Thomas huddle showed a team confident in its ability to win.

With seven minutes to go in this game, Sue Mahoney picks up her fourth foul and then fusses at the ref. I remove her briefly so she can regain her composure. A minute later, upon her return, she

The bench offers vocal support near the end of the game against St. Thomas. From left, Patty Carver, Sue Thompson, Cassi Mickelson and Hershey.



ETHAN HYMAN '93



# HQOPS

**I remove Susie from the game and speak harshly to her, uncharacteristic for me—I think. I challenge her to pick up the slack and play ball. The next day, I apologize for my tirade. ‘That’s OK, John,’ she says. ‘Don’t worry. I need to be motivated.’**

ETHAN HYMAN '93



Sue Mahoney is temporarily outnumbered in a game against Gustavus Adolphus.

trots by me and says, “There’s no way we’re losing this game, man.”

We win 66-61, outplaying St. Thomas in both halves. Nine players make significant contributions. Our Jane Ruliffson is the best player on the court.

**FEB. 4:** Two days ago we played a talented St. Olaf team and won 70-55. Our 14 victories matches

the most wins for a Mac women’s basketball team and we have five games to play.

In practice today, Shannon Hovey (Atwater, Minn.), the Plettner twins, Patty Carver and Sue Thompson stand in a circle, flexing their biceps to compare size and firmness. When we started doing push-ups in December, I hadn’t counted on this outcome.

**FEB. 5:** People like winners. Two grounds workers ask about our next home game. Told that we played next as part of a men’s and women’s doubleheader, one says to me, “We don’t care about the men’s games. Yours are fun to watch.”

**FEB. 11:** The team has agreed to be taped, dressed, stretched and on the floor 45 minutes prior to each home game, and I’m looking from my office window to the field house floor to check on their promptness. There’s still 10 minutes leeway but everyone’s present and the pre-game ritual has started: Kim Lyrek is standing behind one of the bench chairs, braiding Sue Mahoney’s hair. Kim has another “customer” waiting. Later that week, on the bus to St. Mary’s, Kim will provide the same basic service.

**FEB. 13:** As we take the floor at St. Mary’s, we’re surprised to note our opponents will dress only five players. While I empathize with their plight, I caution the kids not to feel sorry for them until after the game, one in which we acquire our 16th win.

Since the second semester has started, Cassi, Patty, Leslie and Susie opt to study during the men’s game and seek out a comfortable lounge. Michelle and Kiki are similarly engaged, “reading” textbooks while watching the game.

When I pass through the lounge, there’s discussion of mental illness, whether it’s inherited or created by environment. Later, the decibel rating rises considerably. Leslie, devoutly anti-war, and Patty, an ROTC Marine, are arguing over the Persian Gulf War. Best of friends, they make their points in their own distinctive styles.

**FEB. 16:** The last game of the year combines Family Day and senior recognition. Shannon Hovey does a beautiful job in singing the anthem, Jane Ruliffson’s mom presents her with a game ball in honor of her 1,000th career point, and all the players are introduced instead of just the starters. I have difficulty presenting a rose to each of the five seniors. They comprise my first “recruiting class” and each has stayed with the team for four years. My eyes well with tears when Michelle says she loves me and Jen and Sue both hug me and say, “Thanks, man.”

The script ends nicely with a close game that’s decided in the final two minutes on an incredible off-





GREG HELGESON

Record-setters: The 1990-91 Mac women's basketball team won 17 games, the most in school history. Standing, from left: Cassi Mickelson (Ada, Minn.); Kiki Weingarten (Washington, D.C.); Jane Ruliffson (Fargo, N.D.); Sue Mahoney (Stillwater, Minn.); Sandy Cole (South St. Paul, Minn.); and Sue Thompson (Minot, N.D.). On the floor, from left: twins Leslie and Susie Plettner (Des Moines, Iowa); Jen Downham (Minneapolis); Shannon Hovey (Atwater, Minn.); Michelle Peterson (Maple Grove, Minn.); and Kim Lyrek (Maple Plain, Minn.). Patty Carver (Ithaca, N.Y.) was not present for this photo, but she appears on pages 6 and 9.

balance shot by Jane. Our win over Hamline gives us 17 victories, the best in Mac women's basketball history, and makes us 11-9 in the conference, marking only the second time that Mac has won more games than we've lost.

**FEB. 18:** The first day after the season ends is always an empty day for me. While there's plenty of work to do, I miss having practice time and I just plain miss the kids. Senior Jen Downham stops by as she returns her gear and voices a similar feeling. We make tentative plans for a final "banquet" that her mom will cook. Jane Ruliffson, certain to be chosen for the all-conference team, stops in to pick up a practice ball and requests clear direction about how to improve her game. Susie Plettner appears and asks how recruiting goes for next year. "I miss the team already," she says.

This group met its potential by playing about as well as it possibly could. And I'm pleased for the seniors who've stayed with basketball in spite of sometimes devastating setbacks. It's nice to see them reap some reward for all their work. But the

best women's team in Mac basketball history still only finished with an 11-9 MIAC record, fifth in the conference. What remains for the younger players is to carry on where this team leaves off.

When I look back on the season, I also think of Sally Finlay, who sank two free throws to win the league championship at my high school in 1967. The game was played in an auxiliary gym—the boys were practicing in the big gym—and only a handful of spectators were on hand. Even the high school paper paid scant attention to her or her team's accomplishment.

Today, a part of me mourns for the Sally Finlays of generations past whose athletic abilities went untapped or unnoticed. I'm pleased at the array of athletic opportunities now for girls and women. In some ways, the sports world is healthier psychologically now that boys have to share the generic locker room with girls. I'm glad to be a part of that change, while recognizing that I'm really a dinosaur in women's sports. I anticipate, with some sadness, the day a woman coach takes my place. ■



# WHEN VIOLENCE HITS HOME

Loretta Frederick '74

*fights for abused women. She challenges the myths about men who batter  
as well as a social system that often lets them get away with it.*

**by Donna Halvorsen**

**A**s a fledgling lawyer more than a decade ago, Loretta M. Frederick '74 learned some startling things about domestic violence:

- Men who kill or injure their wives or girlfriends are not always uneducated, unemployed or otherwise down on their luck. Some are doctors, lawyers, teachers and other professionals who otherwise function at a high level in society.
- Batterers—men who physically or emotionally abuse their partners—are not usually mentally ill. Most are so-called “normal” men who do not exhibit any psychological abnormalities.
- When a man kills his wife or girlfriend, it is usually not an isolated act in which he simply loses control. Rather, it's usually the final act in a pattern of emotional and physical abuse that keeps the woman under control, unable either to flee or to assert herself.

The harsh truths that Frederick learned then are now widely accepted among people who work with battered women, and domestic violence is becoming recognized as a social problem of alarming proportions. The *Journal of the American Medical Association* reported last year that as many women

are injured in domestic violence as by rapes, muggings and auto accidents combined, and that from 22 to 35 percent of the women who come into hospital emergency rooms show symptoms of abuse. In 1989, then-U.S. Surgeon General C. Everett Koop called domestic abuse “an overwhelming moral, economic and public health burden.” He said 15 million American women had been physically abused by their husbands and boyfriends, with the number rising by one million a year.

FBI statistics show that about a third of the women murdered in the U.S. each year are killed by their husbands or boyfriends. Even in progressive Minnesota, where the first two shelters for battered women were established, 22 women were killed by their partners in 1990—the highest number ever recorded, according to the Minnesota Coalition for Battered Women.

Minnesota has been a leader in the battle against battering, and Frederick has been one of its most tenacious foot soldiers. Macalester will give her a

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*Donna Halvorsen is legal affairs reporter for the Minneapolis Star Tribune.*





Loretta Frederick at a public rally in March held to remember the victims of domestic violence in Minnesota. The silhouette next to her represents Linda Simmons, whose death received extensive coverage from the news media, partly because it didn't fit the stereotype of such cases. She was shot to death by her husband, a doctor, at their home in an affluent Twin Cities suburb.

Distinguished Citizen Citation on June 8 in recognition of her work.

One of the founders of the Minnesota Coalition for Battered Women in 1979, Frederick has been director of its Legal Advocacy Project for the past five years, working out of Southern Minnesota Regional Legal Services in Winona. Barbara Hart, staff counsel to the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence, said the Minnesota organization does "visionary work" by "seeing issues and tack-

ling them long before one has to react to them." She said Frederick has been aggressive in prodding courts to grant and enforce orders for protection against abusive spouses.

Frederick does that through a network of lay advocates who help battered women through the legal system in courts throughout the state. She trains them, updates them on the law and consults with them daily on problems they encounter. She also conducts training for police officers, lawyers and judges. On occasion, she assumes a more traditional lawyer's role by taking an issue to court.

**S**everal other Macalester alums have been involved in the battered women's movement — "not all of us as diligently or without rest as Loretta," said Candace Rasmussen '69. "None of us can keep up with her."

As lawyers with Southern Minnesota Legal Services, Rasmussen and Janet Corrington Werness '69 were involved with Frederick in setting up the Women's Resource Center in Winona in 1978. Rasmussen left SMRLS in 1988 to become the state's first woman chief public defender. Werness, still working with SMRLS out of St. Paul, was involved in the effort last year to set up a shelter for Indian women in St. Paul. Kathleen Osborne Vellenga '59, a DFL state representative from St. Paul, spearheaded an effort last year to establish community response teams to look into whether police, courts and social agencies acted properly in each community where a woman was killed. Early this year, Paula Goodman Maccabee '77, a lawyer and St. Paul City Council member, introduced a proposal to make domestic violence calls a priority in St. Paul and require police to pursue and arrest suspects. Gabrielle Funaro Strong '86, who will also receive a Distinguished Citizen Citation from Macalester in June, is an active volunteer for the Women of Nations shelter for battered women in St. Paul.

"This movement is definitely a multifaceted one with myriad sources of energy, and no one person is running the show," said Frederick. "Which is why it is one of the most effective battered women's movements in the country."

Frederick's first exposure to battered women came when she went to work for Southern Minnesota Regional Legal Services in Winona right out of law school in 1978.

"Women would come in and I would start their divorces for them, fill out the papers and stuff, and then they would tell me not to call them at home when the papers were ready. When I asked them why, it was because their husbands would find out that they had been to a lawyer. I couldn't understand. 'Why can't you just tell your husband, 'We're getting a divorce?'... It turns out there

**'Some of the batterers were doctors and lawyers and well-respected members of the community, and others were low-income. They were all different races. Some were nice guys, too.'**



# WHEN VIOLENCE HITS HOME

were all these women who were physically afraid of their husbands because they were splitting from them, and there was nowhere to go. So we formed a safe home network where we would put a woman up with her kids if she needed to hide for a few days." The network still exists.

Frederick also noticed that women were telling strikingly similar stories: "that their husbands were going to take their children and they were never going to see them again... or they were going to mess up her face so bad that no man would ever look at her again... or she would never get a dime out of him... or that if she left him, she would

never get away, he would always find her no matter where she went.

"At first I thought, 'What the heck, do these guys meet once a week and figure out what to say?' They knew these women could be controlled by these threats because they were vulnerable. The women were afraid for their children and for their own safety. So the men all did the same things. That's when I figured out it wasn't an individual woman's problem, that the origins were deeper than that, and that it had to do with a power imbalance between men and women as a class."

Frederick also found that "some of [the batterers] were doctors and lawyers and well-respected members of the community, and others were low-income. They were all different races. [Some were] nice guys, too. The things they had in common were their gender and the methods by which they exerted control over women."

More than a dozen years later, the idea that batterers are so-called "normal" men, sometimes with

## A matter of life and death

The issue of violence against women became personal for Loretta Frederick in 1983. Her 26-year-old sister, Emily, was shot to death by a man with whom she was trying to end a relationship.

Frederick doesn't often talk about her sister's death because, she says, it makes people minimize her work, as if it were a personal vendetta. In fact, she had been working with battered women for five years when her sister was killed.

It didn't help much that Frederick already knew more about domestic violence than most people. "My grief was complicated by my work and the other way around." But she never considered giving up her work on behalf of battered women. "It became even more important then," she said. "It was no longer academic. It was a matter of life and death on a real personal basis."

One of four children, Frederick grew up in St. Louis Park, Minn., and graduated from Regina High School, a Catholic girls school in Minneapolis. She never knew she was a contentious sort until a nun told her parents at a school conference, "Did you know your daughter routinely argues the unpopular position for the sake of argument?" Neither the nun nor her parents thought it was a problem. "So I figured, hell, if this is what I wanted to do, I might as well try to make a living at it."

She entered the pre-law program at Macalester with the idea of becoming a paralegal. "I kind of wanted to be a lawyer but I thought, well, they wouldn't let me in. I was afraid to want it... I was dating a man, another Macalester student who,

when I would talk about going to law school, acted like it was a phase I would get over. Initially, it sort of buttressed my concerns about whether or not I could make it. Then I ended up thinking, 'What do you mean, a phase?'"

At William Mitchell College of Law in St. Paul, she was named outstanding student of the year when she graduated. It was through her work in clinical law projects that "this middle-class white kid from the suburbs," as she called herself, got hooked on the kind of law that she hoped would make a difference. She went to work for Southern Minnesota Legal Services in Winona in 1978. She worked with the poor and the mentally ill, but family law soon became her focus.

Frederick has fought countless battles, large and small, on behalf of the victims of domestic violence since then. She has served on numerous state and local boards and committees dealing with battered women, child support and family law. Last year, she argued before the Minnesota Supreme Court that battered women should not be forced to sit down and mediate—without lawyers—sensitive child custody and visitation issues with men who had just beaten them. An Owatonna judge told her she was "arrogant and conceited" for challenging what had become the standard practice of judges in Steele County. In his memorandum of law, he amended his description to "colossally arrogant and conceited."

Frederick won the case. And, she said with a smile, "the Supreme Court didn't call me arrogant and conceited."  
—D.H.



prestigious jobs and high incomes, still raises hackles outside the ranks of social services professionals. "It shouldn't surprise us that people are reluctant to accept that. Because if we were to accept that, it would have to change," Frederick said. "And the system in the way it currently exists benefits the people who hold the reins of power."

Evan Stark, co-director of the Domestic Violence Training Project in New Haven, Conn., who is con-

sidered a national expert on domestic violence, said the man who batters a wife or girlfriend has characteristics widely shared by men: difficulty expressing feelings, inability in accepting dependency or weakness in himself and a need to dominate. "Men have traditionally used the excuse that they couldn't control themselves," he said. "We're coming to appreciate that battering women is not an impulsive act. It's an act in which a man uses the excuse of being out of control to exercise control."

Domestic violence has long been viewed as a private family problem, or an individual male problem that can be blamed on alcoholism, stress or a bad childhood. But the most crippling myth is that the woman is to blame. "It's time for us to stop thinking that the problem is with her and if she would just get out of the relationship, she wouldn't have this problem," said Frederick. "That, unfortunately, is the solution in most people's minds, instead of asking, 'Why do men do it?' and 'How can we get them to stop doing it?'"

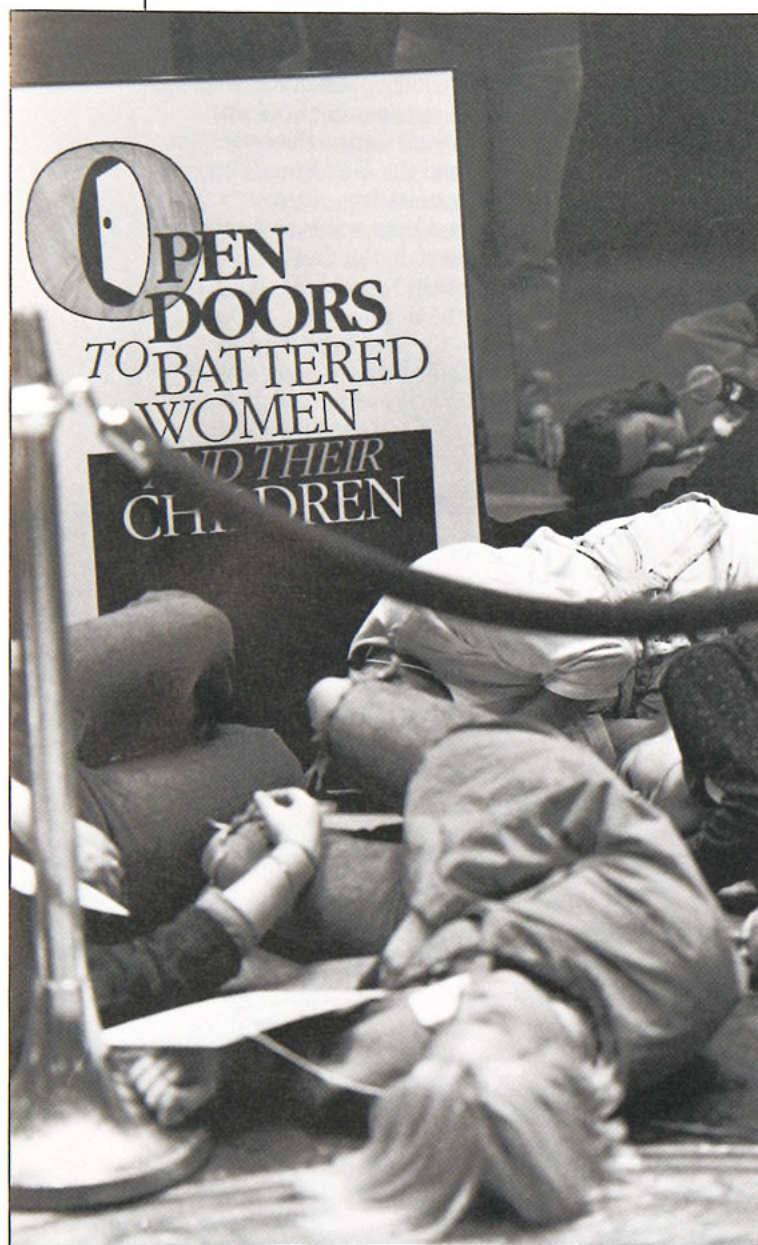
There are more services for battered women now, and a man is more likely to be arrested if he beats up his wife or girlfriend. Influenced by the battered women's movement, some judges are beginning to treat battering as a social problem rather than an individual's mental illness and ordering the batterer to attend classes that force him to answer the question: "What gives you the right to beat on her?" Since the batterer is believed to be amenable to social pressures, the new strategy is to make him pay: arrest him, prosecute him, jail him, let him feel the force of society's disapproval. "Historically, men have been able to beat and batter and rape and it hasn't cost them anything," said Chuck Niessen-Derry, who works with batterers through the St. Cloud (Minn.) Intervention Project. "... You've got to make it cost him."

**B**ut even in Minnesota, shelters turn away more than half the women who seek refuge, and only a quarter of the state's 87 counties have advocates, which are considered the key to making the legal system take the domestic violence problem seriously.

Frederick hasn't seen a light at the end of the tunnel, and she doesn't expect to soon. She sees domestic violence as part of "a huge, multifaceted problem of sexism." "There are plenty of reasons why this system is not dying to overturn itself."

"Sexism exists out there," she said. "It's a real force in everything from the bedroom to the board room. It doesn't mean that it has to make our lives miserable, and it impacts on some people more than others. In some relationships, it means very little and in some it means everything. To think that we're in some kind of post-feminist era and that it's not an issue any longer is absolutely absurd." ■

**'It's time for us to stop thinking that the problem is with the woman, instead of asking, "Why do men batter?" and "How can we get them to stop doing it?"'**



Although Minnesota is a leader in the effort to protect battered women, 22 women in the state were killed by their partners in 1990—the highest number ever recorded. Here, participants in the rally at the state capitol in St. Paul lie on the floor to simulate the victims.



# TWO VIEWS OF KUWAIT

## A retired general applauds President Bush for using force against a 'bully'

Doyle Larson '52 retired eight years ago from active duty in the U.S. Air Force, in which he had risen to the rank of major general. Even so, in late 1990 he received an order that he couldn't refuse.

Retired Air Force Gen. John Vessey, formerly of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, suggested that his old military comrade serve as an adviser for Twin Cities news media in need of military information during the Gulf War. Despite the demands of his defense consulting business, Larson volunteered for the duty. "We needed to provide some perspective to the local media," Larson said in an interview at his home in Burnsville, Minn.

Larson's perspective comes out of a long military career that began while he was a student at Macalester. He was earning 50 cents an hour as a dishwasher in Kirk Hall when a friend suggested he could boost his income by \$17 a month, and avoid dishpan hands, as a member of the Army National Guard.

Later, in 1951, he enlisted in the Air Force. He trained as a Russian linguist, earned his commission as a pilot, flew 71

**'There comes a point, if criminals are in fact torturing and threatening additional people, when you have to resort to violence to take care of the problem.'**

missions in Vietnam, worked in military intelligence and received such honors as two Distinguished Service medals, three Legion of Merit medals and the Order of the Sword. Larson finished his baccalaureate work at Hardin-Simmons University and picked up a master's in political science from Auburn.

In the Twin Cities, Larson became a prominent defender of America's use of

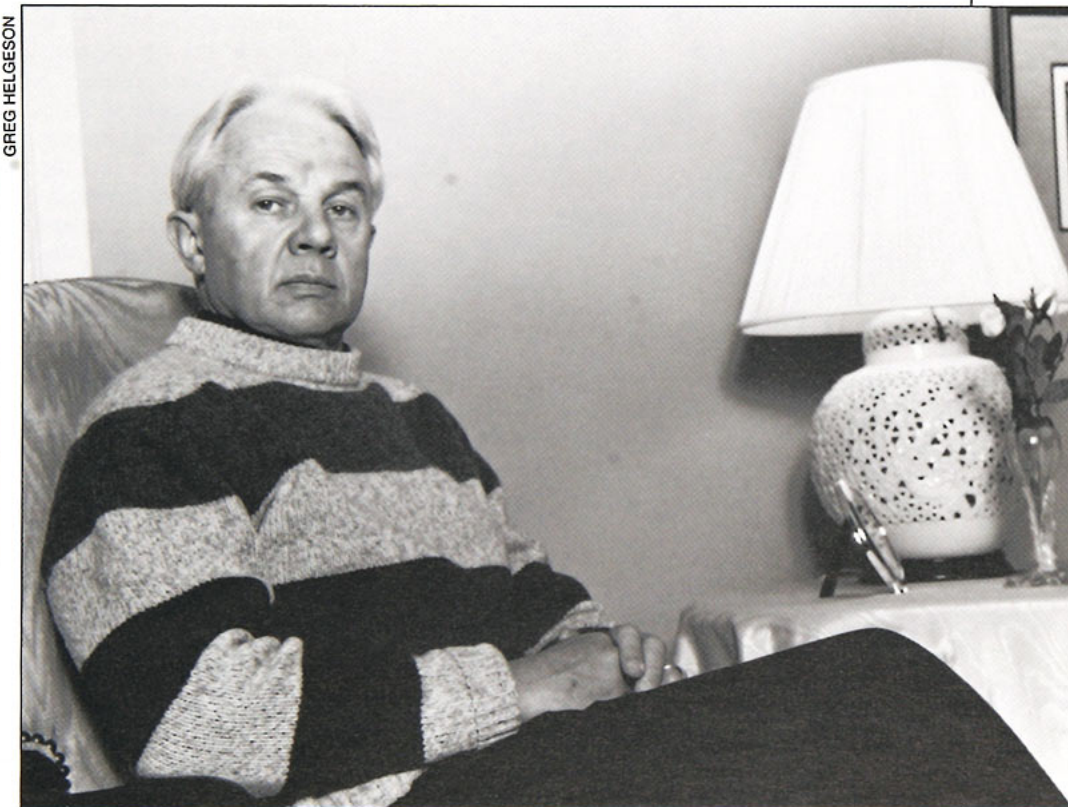
military might against Iraq. "I am a peace activist," he said, "and have always been one. I have two roles to serve. One as a peacemaker, because I was raised by my parents, my church and my school to be a peaceful person. I also was a peace-keeper, because I was in the uniform of my country, and in fact I draw a direct relationship between police and the United States Air Force."

Just as in dealing with domestic crime, he believes that international violence must draw a decisive response. "I applaud the police being patient and using a bullhorn and trying to talk the bad guys into surrendering," he said. "But there comes a point, if [criminals] are in fact torturing and threatening additional people, when you have to resort to violence to take care of the problem."

Non-military pressures against Iraq, he declared, proved useless. "We were wise in waiting and attempting diplomacy and sanctions, but after five and a half months, when that didn't show even the slightest sign of being effective, it was time to apply military pressure."

Unlike some opponents of the war, Larson sees few similarities between the Vietnam War and the Gulf War. The initial air attack against Iraq, he said, was far better staged than any sustained air strike in Vietnam. In the Gulf, the senior Air Force command received "the authority to coordinate all air activity into a centralized plan—the first time it's ever been done," joining the air forces of all the U.S. military branches and those of several other countries. "The military

LARSON continued on page 18



Doyle Larson '52 at home in Burnsville, Minn.: "I often find that the quote peace activists are not very peaceful people." Larson, who received a Distinguished Citizen Citation from Macalester in 1987, is president of the M Club and a past member of the Alumni Association board.

## A 'blond Bedouin' reflects on Islam, the Arabs and 13 years in Kuwait

Iraq's invasion of Kuwait in August 1990 had personal consequences for Mark W. Meinke '70, who left the country two years before. He had spent 13 years in Kuwait, where he became a Muslim, was virtually adopted by a Bedouin tribe and was known by his Arab name, Musaab.

A friend of his, a policeman who was a member of the same Bedouin tribe, was killed defending a police station during the early days of Iraq's invasion. Other members of the tribe fled the country with their families, although many young men returned to fight with the Kuwaiti resistance.

When the United States went to war against Iraq in January, Meinke had profoundly mixed emotions. "I have a strong urge for revenge, to do something back

**'Thinking of the right-wing Islamic fundamentalists you see on TV as Islam is as wrong as thinking of the Ku Klux Klan as Christianity.'**

to Saddam Hussein and the people around him," he said in an interview at Macalester in January, a few days after the war began. He was attending a meeting of the Alumni Association board, of which he is a member.

"That's a very emotional and gut-level reaction that I feel along with my Kuwaiti friends. Bush and Saddam are a classic case of two people who don't know what the other is thinking. Sanctions might have worked had they been approached differently."

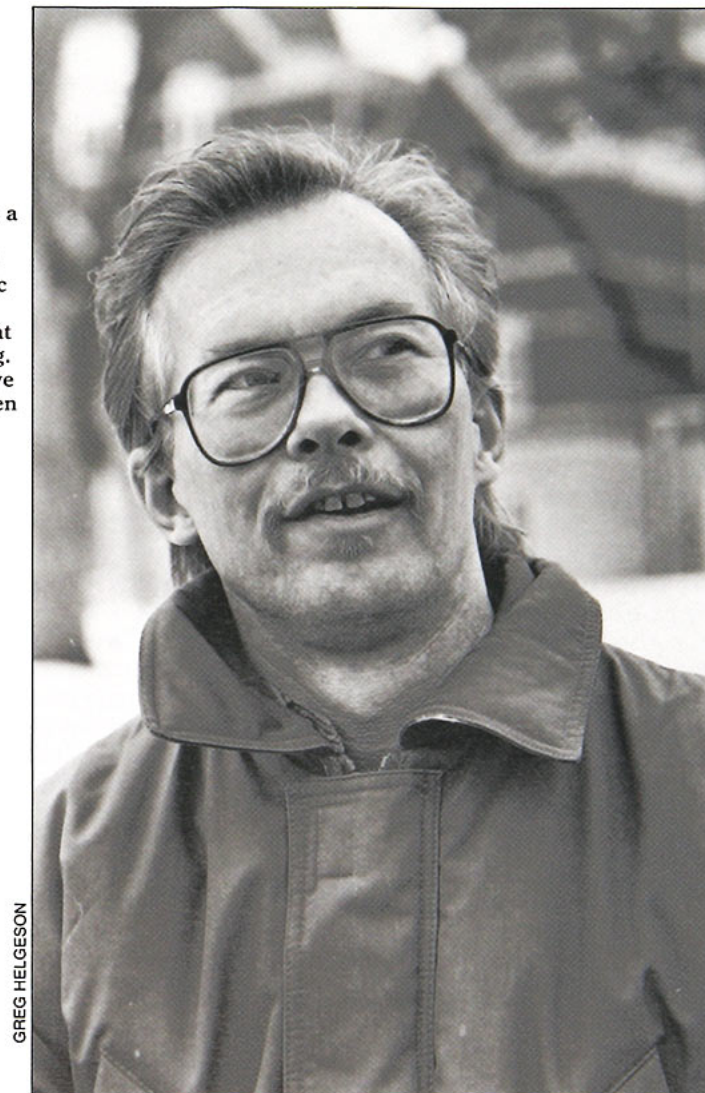
He added that "anyone who knew the area could have told you at that time that Saddam was a thug of the worst sort. I have an Iraqi friend whose father was dissolved in hydrochloric acid because Saddam didn't like his poetry, and that happened in 1972." (The day after Meinke spoke, CBS' 60 Minutes broadcast an interview with an Iraqi who said he saw Saddam kill people by placing them in vats of acid.)

Meinke lived in Kuwait from 1973 to 1988, except for nine months in Saudi Arabia and a year in the U.S. As a child growing up outside Chicago, he was fascinated by the Middle East. He read his grandfather's copy of T.E. Lawrence's *Seven Pillars of Wisdom* several times, and in junior high tried to teach himself Arabic. At Macalester, history Professor Yahya Armajani was his academic adviser. Armajani encouraged him to go to Lebanon in his junior year to research his honors thesis and helped him get a fellowship to the American University in Cairo after graduation.

In Kuwait, Meinke spent eight years teaching English at the university and the last five working in a bank. He taught colloquial Arabic to the bank's expatriate management staff and later worked as a foreign-exchange dealer. He became close friends with a Bedouin about his age named Saleh, who introduced Meinke to other members of his family. Meinke gradually became as much a member of their Bedouin tribe—the Beni Murra, who range over Kuwait and eastern Saudi

MEINKE continued on page 18

Mark Meinke '70 on a visit back to Mac in January: "Bush and Saddam are a classic case of two people who don't know what the other is thinking. Sanctions might have worked had they been approached differently."



GREG HELGESON



*LARSON continued from page 16*

was given a task to do and was turned loose," he said. "It isn't like Vietnam, with [Defense Secretary Robert] McNamara trying to run it out of his Pentagon office on an hourly basis, or LBJ with his three television monitors watching everything and deciding which target we will be permitted to hit the next day."

Larson, in fact, gives President Bush, "as a fighter pilot from World War II with hands-on experience in combat," far higher marks as a military commander than any of his recent predecessors.

Larson easily stepped into his role as commentator on radio and TV and in the newspapers. "I was a little apprehensive at first, not knowing what kind of people I would run into," he said. "I often find that

the quote peace activists are not very peaceful people." He commended the reporters with whom he's worked for their competence, especially for "the diligence with which they do research and try to understand. The first couple of days [of the war] it was a real drill—they didn't have the foggiest idea what a general was, they didn't know what a sortie was. They didn't know one airplane from another."

Although he restricted himself to answering military questions, one political aspect of the media's reporting disturbed him. "I feel very bad for the Kuwaiti Arabs. I think they've been treated by our media like second-class citizens." When the first SCUD missiles from Iraq hit Israel, he was upset that the attacks

received intense media attention, while little appeared in print or on the airwaves about the horrors endured by the Kuwaitis. "It was almost like the Jews were much more important than the Kuwaiti Arabs. That really troubled me," said Larson, who holds the honorary rank of brigadier general in the Israeli Air Force.

Larson has one daughter and two sons-in-law in Air Force uniforms. "I'm very much emotionally involved with the war and at personal risk," he acknowledged. "I realize there are a lot of people who disagree with me about this issue. I think about it a lot and I pray about it a lot. It was the last resort, and we had to do it. International bullies have to be stopped."

—Jack El-Hai

*MEINKE continued from page 17*

Arabia—as a Westerner can be. For three or four months each year for 10 years, he lived with the Bedouins in their tents in the desert, commuting 60 miles each way in his jeep to his job in Kuwait City. At the bank, he changed into his coat and tie. At the end of the day, he changed back to his Arab robe and headcloth for the drive home. His friends called him their "blond Bedouin."

Meinke wasn't drawn to Kuwait by the country's natural beauty. "It's singularly boring to look at. It was the people. I like extended families and the sense of continuity. I suppose to some degree there's the feeling of being a big fish in a small pond, which as a Westerner you are. But I just found the Arabs—particularly the Bedouin—very comfortable people to be with, very welcoming and very warm."

Gradually, Meinke became close enough to his Bedouin friends that Saleh treated him like a brother and the women could be alone in his presence without wearing their veils. When the stove in his city apartment blew up in his face, he called a police station which relayed a message to a brother of Saleh. The brother drove at high speed to Meinke's apartment, skipping a final examination in college in order to take him to the hospital for treatment.

A Quaker since the sixth grade and a

student of religions who attended Harvard Divinity School after Macalester, Meinke converted to Islam in 1973. "It holds many of the same goals as Christianity," he said. "It is meant to be a religion without clergy, which certainly fits with Quakerism.... It's meant to be ignorant of race or ethnic background.... Thinking of the right-wing Islamic fundamentalists you see on TV as Islam is as wrong as thinking of the Ku Klux Klan as Christianity."

Many Muslims "have felt like victims for so long that they take offense much more quickly than I would like or more Western Muslims would like. It's a defensiveness built on centuries of exploitation and misunderstanding, much of which they have seen and still see as willful. It was not so long ago that Muslims were called 'Mohammedans,' for example. Those things die hard."

Although he speaks Arabic and observes Muslim customs, Meinke didn't forget he was a Westerner in Kuwait. At the bank, "if it came to a question of disciplining someone for an omission or an act of incompetence, the issue from the Western point of view is less the individual than the end product. From the Arab point of view, the issue was the individual: How does one save face for him and the group he represents?.... In effect, someone would be found who could do

that job for them.... The inclusion, and sometimes even immersion of the individual in the group attracts me in the Middle East. But it can be maddening if you're trying to get something done. That's where I was more Western than Arab."

Despite the Middle East's reputation for violence, "I never felt physically insecure in the Middle East," Meinke said. "I almost never locked my car. I left the door to my house open and members of the tribe, my fellow Murri who happened to be in the area, would just open the door and walk in. If I was home, fine; if not, they'd make themselves a cup of tea and sit down and watch TV. I'd come home more often than not to find my living room full of people."

Meinke now lives in Washington, D.C., where he trains English-language teachers. He left Kuwait because "I got tired, to some extent, of being a foreigner. I started waking up in the morning realizing I'd been dreaming of green fields and trees," he recalled with a laugh.

"And I realized that if I didn't get back to the United States very soon, I would probably totally assimilate into Kuwait.... My chance of finding or rebuilding a career in the United States would become increasingly remote. It wasn't an easy decision. It had to be done."

—Jon Halvorsen



# ALUMNI NEWS



JIM HANSEN



Reunion Weekend this year is Friday, Saturday and Sunday, June 7-9.



## Reunion events include mini-college on wars

"From Pearl Harbor to the Persian Gulf," Macalester's first alumni mini-college, will highlight this year's Reunion Weekend on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, June 7-9.

Faculty and alumni presentations will look at the impact of recent wars on social attitudes and gender roles, the implications of the Persian Gulf War for the U.S. and other countries, government use of propaganda to build support for wars and the role of spirituality in time of war. A Sunday chapel service focuses on peace and reconciliation.

In addition, all who attended Macalester just before, during and right after World War II are invited to a special gath-

ering. Activities Friday begin with the mini-college, continue with a panel discussion and conclude with a supper and sing-along.

### CLASS REUNIONS

Classes of 1936, '41, '46, '51, '56, '61, '66, '71, '76, '81 and '86 will all hold special activities during the weekend. Classes of 1926, '30, '31 and '32 are receiving separate invitations to the 60th reunion luncheon.

### THEATRICAL EVENING

Jack Reuler '75, who has earned national recognition as founder and managing director of the Twin Cities' Mixed

Blood Theater, is drawing on the talents of Macalester performers for a special evening of theater on campus. Make an evening of it Friday with the all-class pre-theater dinner and a post-performance reception hosted by President and Mrs. Gavin.

### GOLF TOURNAMENT

M Club sponsors the second annual Mac Hack Golf Tournament Friday morning. All alumni and friends are welcome to play in this four-person scramble at Keller Golf Course in Maplewood. Price (\$60 per person) includes lunch, fees, prizes and transportation to and from the course. To participate, call John Leaney, athletic department, at (612) 696-6737. The golf committee will send you more information and a registration form.

### YOUTH PROGRAM

Alumni children ages 8-17 have made this program a popular reunion activity. They spend Friday and Saturday collaborating on a dramatic production presented at 4 p.m. Saturday. Lunches and Friday supper provided.

### SATURDAY SPORTSFEST

Several sports activities sponsored by M Club Saturday morning are open to all: softball on Shaw Field, basketball in the gym, tennis on the courts. Sign up at registration.

### OTHER ACTIVITIES

There will also be seminars, campus tours, the 1991 Distinguished Citizen Citations and, of course, time to visit with classmates and faculty.

### RESERVATIONS

Because nearly 1,000 alumni are expected to attend the reunion, it is important that you make a reservation. While the Alumni Office will do its best, **it cannot guarantee that it will be able to accommodate alumni who arrive without reservations** for class events or for general reunion activities where reservations are specified.

Reservations for events with limited capacity will be accepted in the order in which they are received.

For a reunion brochure and reservation form, or for additional information, please call the Macalester College Alumni Office, (612) 696-6295.



LETTERS continued from inside front cover

Andersen, I respect your right to state your point of view in the press. I defend to the death your right to say anything, but some of the statements made in your letter sicken me.

I applaud your career (I myself am a music student) and your skill at interpreting the ambiguous MMPI, but your views concerning the height of Christian civilization and administering the MMPI to all applicants for college in order to screen out gay, lesbian and bisexual students can only be defined as prejudice and bigotry.

Many of our members are practicing Christians, and there have been gay and lesbian ministers ordained in Episcopal parishes. However, due to views such as yours, some of us no longer wish to participate in a religion that condemns us as evil, for we are not evil. Your insinuation that gay, lesbian, bisexual students should be denied entrance into college is no different than denying blacks equal status as citizens, womyn the right to vote, interning Jews in the Holocaust or Japanese during World War II simply because they were black, womyn, Jews or Japanese. We are human beings! That should be enough to guarantee equal rights and understanding. Yet due to attitudes such as yours, the bashing continues.

Please, Mr. Andersen, don't let the prejudices of yesterday infringe upon our tomorrow. We're here, we're queer, we're fabulous, get used to it!

Karen D. Madsen '94

## Ten percent of population

I was appalled that a supposedly educated person such as C. Wesley Andersen (Macalester, Northwestern and University of Minnesota) and his beautiful wife harbor such a pompous, condescending and narrow-minded attitude toward 10 percent of the population containing many souls who have and continue to contribute much to our world.

Perhaps Mr. Andersen might want to consider a pilgrimage to Rome to strip it of Michelangelo's homosexual, leftist art. Or better yet, review the core of Christ's teachings which I believe included tolerance and forbearance towards your fellow human beings.

Judy Rhodes '69  
Brooklyn, N.Y.

## Mac and the church

As lesbian/gay/bisexual advocate of Macalester's Community Council, I feel compelled to respond to Mr. Andersen's homophobic suggestions.

Although I could easily disprove Mr. Andersen's fallacious arguments, I understand that a difference of three generations, almost 60 years of Gay Liberation, exists between us. Therefore I will concentrate on the most salient feature of his letter: a misunderstanding of Macalester's present affiliation with the Presbyterian Church.

How "church-related" is Macalester? Although the college opened its doors with the assistance of the Presbyterian Church, Macalester has historically been decidedly non-sectarian in its instruction and attitudes. Yet it is through Macalester's positive association with the Presbyterian Church that such concepts as cultural pluralism and dialogue between diverse members of the community emerged as a strong part of the school's purpose.

To state this relationship more clearly, from the policy adopted by the board of trustees for the college on May 20, 1971, the relationship between Macalester and the Presbyterian Church "... will consist primarily, however, of efforts to sustain the kind of pluralism in the academic community that fosters a mature academic and existential encounter of members of the Macalester community with the Christian faith and that facilitate dialogue between those persons committed to other beliefs and ideologies."

It is this desire to sustain a sense of "pluralism" in Macalester's academic environment which encouraged its founding fathers to adopt its official non-discriminatory policy which clearly states: "Macalester College does not discriminate on the basis of age, race, color, national ethnic origin, religious preference, sex, sexual preference or handicap."

Let Mr. Andersen's ignorant response serve as a bold reminder to the members of Macalester's gay, lesbian and bisexual community that our future depends upon everyone's awareness. At the same time, may this letter reinforce the open-mindedness of Macalester's students, faculty, staff and administration in regards to alternative sexual preference.

The "Message to gay alumni" from the GLBU [in August's *Macalester Today*], which was supported by several openly gay alumni, received an overwhelmingly positive response. These letters continue to be a source of inspiration to the many non-heterosexuals at Macalester who currently thrive in Mac's tolerant and accepting environment but who worry about life in the outside world.

Norman J. Praught '93

## Foster tolerance, respect

I have rarely read a letter that made me want to cry as much as the one from C. Wesley Andersen. I suppose some allowance must be made for the fact that the majority culture in the 1920s and '30s (the writer's formative years) was grossly homophobic. However, time and attitudes have not stood still, and I am absolutely appalled that someone who prides himself on being a *public educator* could reveal this much ignorance.

Homosexuality is hardly an invention of the last few decades. At least 10 percent of the male population has some same-sex orientation, as first revealed in Kinsey's research in the 1940s. I am just as certain that there *were* homosexuals at Macalester in the 1920s as the writer is certain there were not, but the so-called "Christian" community of the day would have been quick to brand as unredeemable sinners any of them who were open about it. Perhaps if he had been exposed to homosexuals in college, he would have realized that in most cases, if not all, one's sexual orientation is not a voluntary choice (so hardly a sin), but largely an innate characteristic, not unlike race or ethnic origin. I wonder how the writer would feel if his sentence were rephrased to read, "I wanted no niggers or kikes on my staff of 130 music educators." Pretty nauseating, isn't it, especially when juxtaposed with the feature on the Hebrew House anti-Semitic incident in the same issue.

The other appalling aspect of the letter to me, as a physician, is the gross misuse of the Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory. The MMPI was designed as a research tool and is sometimes a helpful instrument in diagnosing individual psy-

LETTERS continued on page 32



chiatric disturbances. Until now, I was not aware that it could be used to screen for homosexual orientation (and I am not sure that this is accurate). To use this medical tool to discriminate against a class of people is unconscionable, a clear violation of civil rights, and, in this day and age, grounds for a lawsuit. What is Mr. Andersen so afraid of? Homosexuality is not a contagious illness nor even, in the latest psychiatric classification, an illness at all, but simply a fact of life. To put it in terms Mr. Andersen can understand, "God made them that way."

I speak as a member of the majority culture, and as a white, heterosexual, northern European Protestant, I qualify on all counts. Thank God Macalester did not use the MMPI to screen out homosexuals and other "undesirables." I will always be grateful to Macalester for exposing me to members of many diverse religious, ethnic, racial and yes, sexual minority groups, so that any initial attitudes of fear or condescension I may have had were largely replaced by tolerance and respect. I have a feeling the founding fathers would approve.

Cynthia Lystad Olson '79  
Tonka Bay, Minn.

## A gay alumnus replies

I was appalled to read the letter from C. Wesley Andersen. He was upset by a notice to lesbian and gay alumni [from Gays, Lesbians and Bisexuals United, a Macalester student organization] published in the August 1990 issue.

I am one of the gay alumni to whom the notice was addressed. I would like Mr. Andersen to know Macalester is my college as much as it is his! Macalester has always placed a great deal of emphasis on multiculturalism. When I was at Mac, it was considered that lesbians and gays contributed to the diversity of the Mac community. There were only occasional outbreaks of homophobia. In fact, an openly lesbian student was elected president of the Community Council.

Mr. Andersen stated in his letter that he holds advanced degrees, including a doctorate. Apparently, education doesn't always cure ignorance.

David D. Harrison '84  
Scottsdale, Ariz.

## Men who love men

For those who question whether racism, anti-Semitism, or heterosexism is alive, they only need to read *Macalester Today*. Given Donald A. McCartin's letter asserting that Earl Bowman Jr. did not experience racism at Mac and the recent desecration of Hebrew House, we now read C. Wesley Andersen's letter of hate.

After reading Mr. Andersen's letter regarding his disgust of gay men and lesbians, I wonder if *Macalester Today* would have published such a hate-filled letter had it advocated banning Jews or African Americans from Macalester? Since Mr. Andersen is so revolted by gays and lesbians, in order to spare him further discomfort as a music educator, I suggest he stop listening to the works of Cole Porter, Leonard Bernstein and Tchaikovsky since they were men who loved other men.

There have been countless students, faculty and staff members who have been gay men, lesbians and bisexuals throughout the history of Macalester. I encourage the Macalester community to work for extending human rights protection to gay men, lesbians and bisexuals. I hope that all people will soon enjoy equal rights within our society regardless of gender, sexual orientation, race, religion, age, class or ability.

Rachel S. Lipkin '80  
Minneapolis

## Shame on us

Shame on you for publishing C. Wesley Andersen's letter. Were an alumnus to send you a letter expressing racist or sexist opinions, would you print it? Of course not. Yet homophobia seems to be one of the last remaining mental illnesses that can be "safely" flaunted in public.

If you have no consideration for those of us who have to read drivel like Andersen's, you might at least think of the feelings of his friends and family. How embarrassed they must be to see his infirmity revealed so graphically. The Macalester *we* knew would have tried to get him help quietly rather than to use his misfortune to fill up your pages.

Barry Brummett '73  
Margaret Carlisle Duncan '73  
Wauwatosa, Wis.

## Diversity of opinion

I know that many will be outraged by the publication of a letter by C. Wesley Andersen '30, which I personally strongly disagree with, both as a professional psychologist and a Macite. However, I think that the publication of the letter serves to prove and affirm Macalester's commitment to valuing and accepting diverse opinion.

Congratulations in being so bold during these times, when over recent months we as a nation that claims to be accepting of diversity have been all too willing to accept only *one* side of the story. Especially when those who have felt committed to diverse views have been so widely unaccepted and devalued.

Jonas Bromberg '85  
Watertown, Mass.

## Ancient times

After establishing his heterosexual credentials with his opening sentence—indeed, with his first three words—C. Wesley Andersen proceeds to make a startling number of hateful and ignorant remarks. The most obvious is, "During Lillian's and my years at Macalester, Christian civilization was at a high level. I am certain that there were no homosexuals at Mac in those days."

Such nonsense should not even have to be rebutted, but for the record: Yes, Virginia, there have always been homosexuals—in biblical times, in ancient Greece and even at Macalester College in the 1920s.

It is interesting how gays, lesbians and bisexuals are "flaunting it" when we hold hands or otherwise behave in ways that come naturally. Look around you—billboards, movies, magazines, TV shows and commercials all promote the assumption that everyone in our society is, and should be, straight. Who here is flaunting it?

Studies have shown that at least 10 percent of us are gay. Mr. Andersen doubtless has friends and/or relatives who are homosexual, though for obvious and understandable reasons they have chosen not to share this information with him. And that is a shame—for all of us.

Anne M. Hamre '84  
Minneapolis



## Christian values

I, along with many other students both in and outside the gay community presently at Macalester, am disgusted by the homophobic and ignorant comments included in the letter by C. Wesley Andersen.

It is upsetting to me to read such a blatant attack against a campus community in which I have many friends. Especially upsetting is Mr. Andersen's comment on the decline of "Christian civilization" at Macalester in reference to the existence of gay students and alumni. Christianity exists at Macalester in the gay community and outside of it, and I have never felt my Christian values threatened because of the existence of this community. The extreme hatred expressed in Mr. Andersen's letter can be seen as anything but Christian in my opinion.

Every year that Macalester continues to increase the diversity of the student body in regards to race, religion and nationality, it increases the level of "civilization" that it has achieved. Despite Mr. Andersen's beliefs, diversity in sexuality is inherent in any group of human beings, whether or not they have been "tested" for it. I am glad that Macalester maintains at least a somewhat accepting environment for this aspect of diversity, too.

Hate, and the various forms that it takes, is familiar to Macalester students on many levels. The homophobic mentality expressed in Mr. Andersen's letter is something that Macalester's students, staff, faculty and administration must continue to fight against.

Erin Bowley '93

## The Mac gift

In my search for a college, what drew me to Macalester was that although the students, faculty and administrators came from diverse backgrounds and points of view, they had all come together to learn from each other by cooperation and argument.

Over many years, in the face of ignorance, narrow-mindedness, prejudice and violence, the community has always tried to stick together to its goal of learning about and from each other under many circumstances. The latest example is the campus reaction to the Thanksgiving des-

ecration of the Hebrew House. Many people came together in support of the house, Jews and non-Jews alike, displaying the Mac gift of tolerance and open-mindedness, the foundations of progress and peace.

In the face of this tradition, I am outraged by C. Wesley Andersen's letter suggesting that gays and lesbians are different and should be selectively excluded from educational and religious settings. That the homosexual population differs from us in their personal preference is irrelevant to their ability to teach us, argue with us and learn from us. Mr. Andersen's letter implies that he fears people's differences are contagious, not that they should be respected even if only because they are different.

We as Americans, especially Macites, must remember that our differences are what make us special. Mr. Andersen and his views were welcomed by the community and I believe this community expects him to welcome all others and their views as a gift of life.

Devan M. Scott '85  
Boston

## Christ and homosexuality

The February issue's hateful letter from a Nisswa, Minn., alumnus was utterly revolting. I defy the bigot to find a single specific reference to homosexuality by Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ in the Books of Matthew, Mark, Luke or John. My late father would know it can not be done, because he was twice American Legion state chaplain of Arizona. Bible scholars believe the only possible reference to homosexuality by Jesus is in a verse with the mysterious word "Raca."

As one who is blessed to be a frequent visitor to the campus, I know from the bottom of my heart the level of Christian civilization at Macalester is as high as it has ever been.

John "Beano" Wheeler '74  
St. Paul

## Hungerford's capitalism

I am appalled by your article on Mark C. Hungerford in the November 1990 *Macalester Today*. More correctly, I am appalled by Mr. Hungerford's views of capitalism.

Mr. Hungerford's story of budding cap-

## Favorite profs

We plan an article for *Macalester Today* on the subject of "favorite professors" at Macalester, featuring both present and past faculty members.

If you wish to share your memories of a favorite professor, write: *Macalester Today*, Public Relations and Publications, Macalester College, 1600 Grand Ave., St. Paul, MN 55105. Our FAX number is: (612) 696-6689. Or call Managing Editor Jon Halvorsen, (612) 696-6203.

italism, a Soviet official's son—already a member of a privileged class in Soviet society—selling McDonald's hamburgers at three times the price, to folks waiting at the back of long lines, is false. His story strikes me as plain and simple exploitation.

It reminded me of an analogous story, albeit closer to home, told by author Kaye Gibbons in her novel *Ellen Foster*. The protagonist, Ellen Foster, a charming Southern girl of 11, talks about her friend, Starletta, and Starletta's family:

"All three of them stay in one room. I myself could not stand it. They do their business outside and when it is cold they do it over in the corner in a pot. I guess they hide their eyes and hum while somebody goes. I hold myself until I get home.

"And they never have had a television set.

"The only one that can read is Starletta and she misses words.

"Her mama works on quilts right much. She can do flowers, dutch boys and girls, just square blocks, anything you order. She sells them to white women from town and they turn around and sell them again for a pretty penny. That would gall me."

I agree with Ellen Foster. It galls me that Macalester students are learning courtesy of a man who fashions capitalism to nothing more than exploitation. I don't know who is worse, Mr. Hungerford or Macalester for accepting his money. I only hope the economics department faculty has enough brains to require their students to take an ethics class.

Timothy A. Haviland '82  
St. Paul





ED BOCK

## A Minnesota State of Mind

For students at Macalester, excellence in education is an everyday event. The college wishes to thank those alumni, parents and friends who make it all possible.

Macalester invites your gift to the 1990-91 Annual Fund. Alumni, parents and friends making gifts by May 31 will be recognized in the Annual Report for their support of the 1990-91 academic year.

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